

# Comparison chart for fall protection requirements

Industry or Activity	Rule number	Verbiage	Height requirement (in feet)
Dangerous equipment, pickling or galvanizing tanks, degreasing units, and other similar hazards	800-26010(1) 155-505(6)(e)	Guard open-sided floors, walkways and platforms above or adjacent to dangerous equipment, pickling or galvanizing tanks, degreasing units, and other similar hazards, regardless of height with a railing and toeboard.	Always
Agriculture (Dangerous equipment, pickling or galvanizing tanks, degreasing units, and other similar hazards)	307-25015(3)	Regardless of height, all open-sided floors, walkways, platforms, or runways above or adjacent to dangerous equipment, pickling or galvanizing tanks, degreasing units, or similar hazardous equipment, must be guarded with a standard railing and toeboard.	Always
Electrical workers – line clearance tree-trimming	45-45530	Each employee shall be tied in with a climbing rope and safety saddle when the employee is working above the ground in a tree, unless he or she is ascending into the tree.	Above the ground
Boom supported elevating work platforms – general industry	24-87510(19)(f)	Safety harness and lanyard devices fixed to attachment points provided and approved by the manufacturer must be used by all occupants.	Always

Industry or Activity	Rule number	Verbiage	Height requirement (in feet)
Boom supported elevating work platforms – construction industry	296-155-489(19)(f)	Safety harness and lanyard devices fixed to attachment points provided and approved by the manufacturer must be used by all occupants.	Always
Electrical workers	45-25510(12)	Fall arrest equipment, work positioning equipment, or travel restricting equipment shall be used by employees working at elevated locations more than 4 feet (1.2 m) above the ground on poles, towers, or similar structures if other fall protection has not been provided. Unqualified employees (including trainees) are required to use fall protection any time they are more than 4 feet (1.2 m) above the ground.	4
Longshore/stevedoring	56-60123(2)	(a) Guardrails shall be provided at locations where employees are exposed to falls of more than four feet from floor or wall openings or waterside edges, including bridges or gangway-like structures leading to pilings, vessel mooring or berthing installations.  (c) Where guardrails are impractical due to machinery requirements or work processes, an alternate means of fall protection, such as nets, shall be used.	4
Trenching/Excavation	155-655(12)(a)	Guardrails which comply with Chapter 296-155, Part K shall be provided where walkways are 4 feet or more above lower levels.	4
Open-sided floor, platforms or surface	155-505(6)(a)	Every open sided floor, platform or surface four feet or more above adjacent floor or ground level shall be guarded by a standard railing, or the equivalent, as specified in subsection (7)(a) of this section, on all open sides, except where there is entrance to a ramp, stairway, or fixed ladder.	4
Open-sided floor, platforms or surface	800-26010(1)	Guard open-sided floors and platforms four feet or more above adjacent floor or ground level by a railing. The entrance to a ramp, stairway, or fixed ladder does not need a railing.	4
Agriculture	307-25015(1)	Every open-sided floor or platform 4 feet or more above an adjacent floor or ground level must be guarded by a standard railing (or the equivalent according to WAC 296-307-25027 on all open sides, except where there is an entrance to a ramp, stairway, or fixed ladder.	4

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Shipbuilding and Ship Repair	304-05005(3)	When employees are exposed to unguarded edges of decks, platforms, flats, and similar flat surfaces, more than 5 feet above a solid surface, the edges shall be guarded by adequate guardrails meeting the requirements of WAC 296-304-05001 (1) (a) and (b), unless the nature of the work in progress or the physical conditions prohibit the use or installation of such guardrails.	5
Shipbuilding and Ship Repair (working surfaces)	304-05013(2)	The employer must provide and ensure the use of fall protection when employees work aloft or elsewhere at elevations more than 5 feet above a solid surface.	5
Shipbuilding and Ship Repair (Fall protection)	304-09019	The employer must provide and ensure the use of fall protection when employees work aloft or elsewhere at elevations more than 5 feet above a solid surface.	5
Concrete and masonry operations	155-680(10)(b)	No employee shall be permitted to place or tie reinforcing steel more than six feet (1.8 m) above any adjacent working surface unless the employee is protected by personal fall arrest systems, safety net systems, or positioning device systems meeting the criteria of chapter 296-155 WAC, Part C-1.	6
Concrete and masonry operations	155-680(10)(c)	Each employee on the face of formwork or reinforcing steel shall be protected from falling 6 feet (1.8m) or more to lower levels by personal fall arrest systems, safety net systems, or positioning device systems meeting the criteria of chapter 296-155 WAC, Part C-1.	6
Longshore/stevedoring	56-60119	Employees doing maintenance work on cranes, spouts or similar types of equipment, eight feet or more above the ground or surface and not in an area that is protected by any standard safeguards such as walkways with standard railings, or ladders with protective cages, shall wear a safety belt and lanyard which can be attached to the structure.	8
Scaffolds	874-20052	Protect each employee on a scaffold more than 10 ft. (3.1 m) above a lower level, from falling to the lower level, by providing either: A personal fall arrest system <b>or</b> Guardrails. Make sure employees erecting the scaffold install the guardrail system, if required, before the scaffold is used by any other employees.	10

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Construction Fall Protection	155-24510	When employees are exposed to a hazard of falling from a location 10 feet or more in height, the employer shall ensure that fall restraint, fall arrest systems or positioning device systems are provided, installed, and implemented according to the following requirements.	10
Fire fighter training	305-05501(4)	When fire fighters are engaged in training above the ten-foot level where use of life lines or similar activities are to be undertaken, a safety net shall be erected or other approved secondary means of fall protection such as recommended in chapter 296-155 WAC, Part C-1, Fall restraint and fall arrest, shall be used in lieu of nets.	10
Window washing	878-15025(1)	<p>Make sure all workers suspended from a boatswain's chair or rope descent system use an independent fall arrest system where the fall arrest anchorage is separate from the suspension system anchorage.</p> <p>Make sure workers operating powered platforms wear and use a fall arrest system.</p> <p>Make sure workers are connected at all times to the fall arrest system while they are suspended.</p>	10
Order pickers	863-20025	<p>Make sure order pickers have either: Standard guardrails on all open sides <b>or</b> A safety harness and lanyard that are connected to a tie off point that has been approved by the PIT manufacturer.</p> <p>Make sure personal fall arrest equipment meets the requirements of <a href="#">WAC 296-24-88050, Appendix C, Personal Fall Arrest Systems</a>.</p>	10
Ski lifts	59-050(5)(a)	Safety belts, lifelines, and lanyards which meet the requirements of ANSI A10.14 shall be provided and used whenever employees are working in locations which expose them to a fall of more than ten feet. The particular work location and application shall dictate which type of belt or harness and length of lanyard is used.	10

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Grain storage structures	99-040(2)	The employer must ensure that during the entry and occupation of a storage structure the employee uses: A body harness with a lifeline; or A boatswain's chair that meets the requirements of Part J-2 of chapter 296-24 WAC whenever: (a) The employee is exposed to a fall hazard such as when entering from the top or above the level of the stored grain; or (b) The employee is exposed to an engulfment hazard such as when entering at the level of the stored grain, or while walking or standing on the grain. The lifeline must be rigged so that its position and length will prevent the employee from sinking below waist level.	At certain times